

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSY-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 SIL-01 LAB-04

COM-02 /076 W

-----021957Z 033605 /42

R 311245Z MAR 77

FM AMCONGEN NAPLES IT

TO AMEMB ROME IT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5414

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E.O. 11652: N/A ---- TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: GRAVE INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE "ORGANIZED UNEMPLOYED"

1. SUMMARY - ON MARCH 29, THE LATEST AND GRAVEST OF A SERIOUS OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE "ORGANIZED UNEMPLOYED" ROCKED BOTH THE CAMPANIA REGIONAL GOVERNMENT AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATION OF NAPLES IN SEPARATE ATTACKS ON COUNCIL MEETINGS OF EACH ENTITY. THE INVASION OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, PRESIDED OVER BY COMMUNIST MAYOR MAURIZIO VALENZI, WAS THE MOST VIOLENT. IT LEFT 13 INJURED AND PROVOKED FOUR ARRESTS. THESE TWO ATTACKS FOLLOW ON AN ESCALATION OF "ORGANIZED UNEMPLOYED" ACTIVITIES' END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED TO EMBASSY (UAGY & KUCHEL) ON MA3CH 29 ABOUT

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THREE HUNDRED "ORGANIZED UNEMPLOYED" REPRESENTING THE GROUP "NUOVE LISTE 77" INVADED A MEETING OF THE CAMPANIA REGIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDED OVER BY MARIO GOMEZ D'AYALA, A COMMUNIST AND PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY. AFTER A FIFTEEN MINUTE ATTACK AGAINST THE HEAVY DOORS OF THE MEETING HALL, THE DOORS WERE SMASHED ASIDE AND HUNDREDS OF CHANTING DEMONSTRATORS POURED IN.GOMEZ D'AYALA WITH AN IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY OF PROCEDURAL SKILL, MANAGED TO FORMALLY CLOSE

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THE MEETING AND LEAVE BETWEEN THE TIME THE DOORS GAVE WAY AND THE ARRIVAL OF THE MOB AT HIS DESK. A FEW OF THE LESS AGILE COUNCILLORS WERE UNABLE TO ESCAPE AND STAYED TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT WITH THE GROUP. AFTER TWO HOURS, THE REMAINING COUNCILLORS AGREED TO SIGN A DOCUMENT REQUESTING THE INTERVENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE SOUTH, AND AGREED THAT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WOULD MEET TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE.

THE POLICE WERE PRESENT IN FORCE BUT DID NOT INTERVENE AND, AFTER ANOTHER HOUR, THE MEETING DISSOLVED. THERE WERE NO INJURIES.
3. IN CONTRAST, THE MEETING OF THE NAPLES CITY COUNCIL THAT EVENING IN THE SAME HALL PRODUCED THIRTEEN INJURED AND FOUR ARRESTS. ELEVEN OF THE THIRTEEN INJURED WERE POLICE. THE ARRESTED WERE RELEASED AFTER A FEW HOURS. THE MEETING WAS PRESIDED OVER BY

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MAURIZIO VALENZI, THE COMMUNIST MAYOR OF NAPLES WHO, LIKE HIS COLLEAGUE, WAS ABLE TO SUSPEND THE MEETING IN PROPER PROCEDURAL FASHION JUST BEFORE THE BRAWL BEGAN. VALENZI, THOUGH, REQUESTED THE HELP OF THE POLICE IN CLEARING THE HALL OF THE SEVERAL HUNDRED "NUOVE LIST 77" DEMONSTRATORS. THIS THEY PROCEEDED TO DO, THOUGH IT TOOK A WHILE TO TURN THE TIDE. AT ONE POINT A MAJOR OF THE SECURITY POLICE WAS DOWN UNDER THREE "UNEMPLOYED." HE LATER REFUSED TREATMENT FOR SUSPECTED INTERNAL INJURIES AND IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CASUALTY COUNT CITED ABOVE. IT IS LIKELY THAT THERE WERE UNREPORTED INJURIES AMONG THE DEMONSTRATORS. AFTER THE ROOM WAS CLEARED, THE MEETING WAS BROUGHT TO AN ORDERLY CONCLUSION UNDER HEAVY POLICE GUARD.

4. THESE INCIDENTS ARE ONLY THE LATEST AND MOST SERIOUS INVOLVING THE SO-CALLED "ORGANIZED UNEMPLOYED." THEY HAD BEEN CONFINING THEIR ATTENTIONS PRIMARILY TO ACTIONS AGAINST INDUSTRY, AS IN THEIR RECENT INVASION OF THE SELENIA PLANT AT CASERTA WHICH PRODUCES RADAR AND GUIDANCE SYSTEMS FOR BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN APPLICATIONS. INDUSTRY CANNOT REACT FORCEFULLY AGAINST GROUPS OF DEMONSTRATORS, EVEN WHEN THEY INVADE ESTABLISHMENTS DOING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLASSIFIED RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION, AND HAS BEEN LARGELY HELPLESS IN

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THE FACE OF THESE INCIDENTS. THE USUAL RESPONSE HAS BEEN TO INSTALL HEAVIER GATES AND MORE LOCKS.
5. POLITICALLY, THE TWO INCIDENTS TUESDAY ARE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO THE COMMUNISTS, WHO CLAIM TO SPEAK FOR THE SAME PEOPLE WHO ATTACKED THE MEETINGS. L'UNITA'S COVERAGE OF THE EVENTS FAILS TO MENTION THAT WELL KNOWN COMMUNIST FIGURES WERE PRESIDING OVER BOTH MEETINGS BUT DOES CONCEDE THAT, "IT IS POINTLESS TO HIDE (THE FACT) THAT WE ARE CONFRONTED BY AN AGGRESSION AGAINST DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS." THE DC IS UNDERSTANDABLY LESS RETICENT AND IL MATTINO, THE NAPLES DAILY CONTROLLED BY THE PARTY, GIVES NEARLY A PAGE TO THE STORY, ANALYZING IT IN GREAT DETAIL.
6. THESE INCIDENTS, AS WITH THOSE AT THE UNIVERSITIES, SUGGEST THAT THE PCI LOST SOME TOUCH WITH ITS LEFT AS IT HAS TRIED TO CREATE FOR ITSELF AN IMAGE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL

CENTER. THE LARGE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED HERE HAVE A GENUINE GRIEVANCE AND CONSTITUTE A FORCE OF CONSIDERABLE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL INSTABILITY. THE PCI HAS BEEN SHOCKED INTO A SUDDEN AND SENSITIVE AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM AND, IN CONTRAST TO AND IN CONTRAST TO THE STUDENT ISSUE THERE IS EVIDENCE OF A SHIFT IN STANCE TO ONE OF MORE DIRECT INTEREST AND SUPPORT. COLANTONIO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CIVIL DISORDERS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAPLES00482
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770115-0362
Format: TEL
From: NAPLES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977033/aaaaacbf.tel
Line Count: 122
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3018883
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GRAVE INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE "ORGANIZED UNEMPLOYED"\\"
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7f6220b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009